

WIDOW SHARES LAST CRUSTS WITH CATS AND DOGS

Mrs. Angelica Schuyler Reed, Member of Old Family, Destitute in Home.

SHE FACES EVICTION.

Lived Alone in Tumble-Down House With Many Four-Footed "Children."

A unique case of destitution in which an aged widow, a member of one of New York's most aristocratic families, the Schuylers, has shared for months her rapidly dwindling resources with a small colony of cats and dogs in a queer, old-fashioned mansion in East Eighty-third street has been brought to the notice of the Health Department by the Bida-Wee Society.

The widow is Mrs. Angelica Schuyler Reed, a tall, gaunt, gray woman, who in spite of the squalor of her surroundings, months of poverty and lack of nourishment, still shows that she was well born and well bred. A reporter for The Evening World, stumbling over old, rotting mattresses, fragments of worn out and broken antique furniture in the dingy hall, was called to her room, where she sat on the edge of a tumbled bed, lean, scraggy cats rubbing at her back, and dogs, seemingly without number, at her feet. She suggested a character from some story by De Maupassant or Balzac, and she told the weird story of a life that, beginning with every promise, is waning with a despondent notice and the ugly word charity staring her in the face.

No Rent in Two Years.

Mrs. Reed lives in No. 122 East Eighty-third street, one of the few remaining houses of its type in this city. It is a roomy, rambling, three-story frame structure, with a front yard in which there is one half-dead tree, and a large back yard. Once it must have been an imposing residence, with its faintly over the door and its wrought-iron lattices, but it has not known a paint brush in years and its shutters have fallen away to only a few slats.

There Mrs. Reed has lived for seven years, and a remarkable feature of her story is that she says she hasn't paid any rent for the past two years.

"You see, I don't even know to whom the house belongs now," she said. "It used to belong to the Presbyterian Synod—I leased it from them—but there was a lawsuit over it, and two years ago a man came and told me not to pay rent to any one, and I never have. They've tried to move me and my dear children—she meant her dogs and cats—several times, but I've always managed to fight them off. But now I can't fight any more. I've got to go, and I don't know just where."

A man who said his name was Martin F. Revere came yesterday and gave me a dispossession notice and last night my nephew and Mrs. Kibbe and Mrs. Mills came and took away eight of my children in automobiles.

Mr. Reed's nephew is Charles Comstock and he is in the manufacturing business downtown. Neighbors say he has urged his aunt to live with him for years, but she has refused. The old woman will probably go to him now.

House Unfit for Habitation.

Mrs. Clydes K. Kibbe, the president of the Bida-Wee Society, which takes care of stray dogs and cats, and Mrs. Estelle Mills is also connected with the society. Several times they have received complaints from the neighbors regarding Mrs. Reed's pets, and once or twice they have taken dogs from the old house.

The unsanitary condition of the old mansion, which had evidently not been swept out or scrubbed or even aired in two years, was brought to the attention of the Health Department by Mrs.

Members of the Special Legislative Commission Which Is Probing Conduct of Minor Criminal Courts of the City



Kibbe. Inspectors have taken the matter up, and this probably is at the bottom of the serving of the dispossession notice, as the old house is utterly unfit to live in. But Mrs. Reed doesn't think so.

"The house is all right," she said in her thin, complaining voice. "I can get along—I and my children—if they will just let us alone and get plenty to eat and so do the children."

Then she told what she knows of the history of the old mansion. It is in a neighborhood which has been built up by the most prominent Tammany politicians, and was the residence of the John F. Carroll Association, at a time when Carroll was powerful in Tammany.

There John F. Carroll held his little court, and Mrs. Reed said that she and many of the most prominent Tammany politicians used to gather in the evenings.

Been There Seven Years.

Seven years ago Mrs. Reed rented it, at first occupying the entire house and later subdividing the lower floors to a Greek letter fraternity. About two years ago she found she could get no tenants, the place was too ramshackle, and after a time she moved into one room upstairs. There she has lived ever since, eating, sleeping, cooking in the one little room, while the dogs and cats took the rest of the house.

She doesn't remember how long ago it was that she began to gather her "children" around her. Neighbors say she has rescued many a stray dog from boys and cats are always sure of a refuge and food in the house. They eat at the same table with her, they swarm over the table, in fact, and she encourages them.

"They are better friends than humans," she says.

One night Mrs. Kibbe, Mrs. Mills and Mr. Comstock went to the house in two automobiles and took the first consignment of cats and dogs away. The old woman stood in the door and wringing her hands, and there was a wonderful little scene. Mrs. Kibbe, watching the strange scene, Mrs. Kibbe expected to return for the other dogs to-day.

The upward movement was continued in the stock market to-day. Harriman shares were the feature of the opening. On urgent and excited buying first prices were about one point up. Gains were well held during the first hour of trading, with Union and Southern Pacific in the lead. Trading was very active.

The market closed easy. American Cotton Oil was marked up 3 1/2. New York Air Brake 2 1/2. Kansas & Texas 1 1/2. Virginia Carolina Chemical 1. This helped the general market for a time, but prices sold off again later. Southern Railway preferred declined 1 3/8 and St. Paul 1. Lackawanna sold at a decline of 1 1/2 and Western Maryland 2 1/4.

The total sales of stocks were \$76,700,000, and of bonds \$7,982,000.

The Closing Prices.

Locomotive	53 1/2	52 1/2	52 1/2	+	1/2
Sh. & Ref.	134 1/2	134	134 1/2	+	1/2
Sh. & Ref.	134 1/2	134	134 1/2	+	1/2
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